

Somers Cultural Commission Minutes

February 13, 2012

Present: Linda Abbott, Nancy Barbosa, Neil Connell, Bob Hall, Rich Mazur, John Reeves, Judy Reeves, Ruthie Sutter & Kathy Worcester.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were accepted with the following change to the first bullet under Honorary Membership – Objectives: Recognize members that have given significant support to the Cultural Commission but cannot commit to attend the required number of meetings.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was accepted as submitted.

Correspondence:

- Letter to Rev. Cass of Somers Congregational Church from Linda Abbott offering support.
- Letter from Linda Abbott to the Selectman recommending Cultural Commission Membership for Kate Madersky. This recommendation will not be official for 60 days.

Subcommittee Reports:

Summer Concerts (Rich Mazur)

- The following performers have been booked for the 2012 season:
 - June 28, 2012 - Annie Wilson
 - July 5, 2012 – Windham Concert Band (Rain Date July 6th)
 - July 19, 2012 - James Mazzaferro

Piedmont Percolator (John & Judy Reeves)

- Had a weak turnout for last night that was probably due to the cold weather and poetry reading. The performers were very good.
- Judy Reeves presented a 2012 – 2013 budget that included the amount paid to each performer and equipment needed for the upcoming season.
- Motion: Spend up to \$1200 to purchase two 4 X 8 platforms with legs. Motion Passed. The platforms will be purchased prior to the first event in the fall.

Art Show (Neil Connell)

- An Art Show committee was established and met last week to develop a plan for the Art Show.
- The Art Show will be expanded to two weeks and will begin on September 23rd and end on October 7th.
- The Art Show will be in memory of Linda Percoski and we will include some of her art.
- Discussed and approved the number and award amounts to be offered.
- The Memorial Award will be in the name of Linda Percoski.
- A draft tri-fold of the mailing was handed out and discussed. We agreed to add it to the web site at the same time that it is mailed, which will be mid-July.
- Neil is working to get the mailing list from Linda Percoski's niece.

- Discussed the show schedule, including the days and times that the show will be open.
- The Commission agreed to support the total award amount and the two week schedule.
- The Committee is looking for suggestions to make the 20th anniversary significant. Ideas will be appreciated.

Old Business

No Old Business was discussed

New Business

2012 Scholarship

- Bob Hall presented a draft of the 2012 Scholarship form with Instructions and Application. The Scholarship instructions and Application were accepted by the commission.
- Bob will deliver the form to the High School Guidance office and have it posted on our internet page.
- This year more details of the selection process will be presented to the entire Commission, i.e., a summary of applicant's essays and photos of work submitted.

Budget – Town Funds:

- Linda A. presented a budget to the BOS addressing the funds provided by the town. It's assumed we will receive \$2500 for the 2012-2013 year however this amount has not been approved yet by the town.

Budget – General Funds:

- Linda developed a draft expenditures pro-forma budget for 2012 – 2013. The estimate highlights the need for an organized effort on fundraising to fill the substantial void in funds needed to support planned events.

Cash Flow:

- Linda Abbott presented a draft of a cash flow spreadsheet to ensure that funds are adequate to meet expenses during the next 18 months. The spreadsheet indicated the need for significant fundraising to support the difference between the amount funded by the town and what is projected for each event.

Fundraising:

- The need for organized fundraising was discussed.
- The commission will dedicate time at the next meeting to discuss fundraising and get each of the commission members involved in the process.
- A committee will meet prior to the next meeting to develop plans.

7th Summer Concert:

- The members felt that we should develop a fundraising plan before allocating additional money for an additional concert.

Next meeting: **March 12, 2012 @ 7 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Hall

